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THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 130, No. 8

A Van Buren Township man will serve five years on probation for his part in the robbery of a Canton man's home and the theft of his car.

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THE CANTON EAGLE

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Applications to become a book giver are now being accepted from readers of all ages for a new program at the Canton Public Library.

See page 3.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

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The Inkster Public Library will be going "Straight Ahead" this month with a celebration honoring Black History Month by the renowned jazz ensemble.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

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Vivian Zhong of Northville has been chosen as the winner of the 57th Annual Distinguished Young Women of Michigan Scholarship Program.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

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The purchase of a cold weather amenity led to some hot tempers during the meeting of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees last week.

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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A meeting regarding the new program offering a college degree while earning a high school diploma at Romulus High School is planned for Feb. 26.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE

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Residents looking for services at Wayne City Hall at the end of March will find the current building empty of staff and undergoing some serious construction.

See page 7.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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Last week, officials from Wayne and Westland gathered for the official dedication of the new $3.1 million fire station located on Central City Parkway.

See page 7.

District sells school to arts group

Members of the Plymouth Canton Community Schools Board of Education voted unanimously last week to sell the Central Middle School building and surrounding property to representatives of the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC) for an estimated $3.3 million.

The sale includes the football field and the special needs baseball fields constructed and used by the Miracle League of Plymouth.

Sole financing for the purchase is being provided by Mark and Patty Malcolm of Plymouth and their corporation, Malcolm Central LLC.

The PARC project, described as a future venue for athletic events, concerts, classes and community events, will also house several community groups in the Central Middle School building, if plans continue on track. Lease funds from those community groups, including the Michigan Philharmonic and the Miracle League would help the PARC group to operate the school building. The

> *"Soenen said that PARC representatives would approach the township again.*

PARC group, represented by Plymouth Township resident Don Soenen, has suggested that an inter-governmental agreement and tax between Plymouth Township and the City of Plymouth would be needed to renovate the building and property into the type of facility envisioned.

Plymouth Township officials, however, led by Township Treasurer Ron Edwards not only soundly rejected the concept of the joint arts and recreation complex, but went further and voted to enter into no inter-governmental agreements with the city for the next two years. During that time, the controversial township $1.9 million recreation construction of an all-weather pavilion in the township park, an amphitheater with granite benches in the park and several other amenities will be nearly complete.

Edwards, the leading proponent of the township plan, said at the meeting several months ago that he was dismayed to see his plans cast aside for a proposal from the group.

Soenen, whose approach to township officials was soundly rebuked, said that PARC representatives would approach the township again. He also said that the issue is one that should be decided by a vote of the community. Any tax to support a joint recreation and arts complex would have to be approved by voters.

The next step for PARC, according to Soenen, is more community input on the needs and best uses of the property, the development of a business plan and an economic impact study. Then the group can move to the design phase for the building and property, he said.

Construction is not expected to begin until 2017.

Celebration

Chinese New Year will be marked in Canton

Celebrating a 4,000-year-old tradition, the Chinese New Year, which begins today, will be welcomed at a special event hosted by the Canton Commission for Culture Arts and Heritage Multicultural Committee next month.

The Year of the Goat celebration will begin at 7 p.m. March 7 at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill and will include a Peking Opera performance by Fang Shubo, the Canton Philharmonic Choir, the March Wind Choir, and the Michigan Chinese Choir.

Also performing will be members of the Yangtzee Melody Group and the Spring Group, along with the Desert Island Band. This special celebration will also include a Chinese Fashion Show, Tai Chi, and a traditional Chinese instrumental performance by the Shangarila band.

The art of traditional Chinese folk and classical dances will be shared by Ann-Hua Chinese School, New Century Chinese group, Hua-Chin Northville Dance Group and Chinese Dance Star featuring a Tai dance by U of M student Thomas Davis.

Event-goers can also enjoy a punch and cookie reception starting at 6 p.m. In addition, a variety of cultural displays will be available in The Village Theater lobby. Tickets to this special Chinese New Year celebration are just $2 per person at the door.

Lunar New Year celebrations this year will say goodbye to the Year of the Horse and usher in another animal in the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac - the Year of the Goat. The Chinese New Year, also called Spring Festival, has more than 4,000 years of history. Being one of the traditional Chinese festivals, it is the grandest and the most important festival for Chinese people, organizers said.

A traditional Chinese Fashion Show, featuring authentic Chinese clothing, will be a part of the New Year celebration of the Year of the Goat set for March 7 at The Village Theater in Canton Township.

The famous Michigan Chinese Choir is among the many entertainment groups that will perform at the celebration of the Chinese New Year planned at The Village Theater in Canton Township March 7.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, is a regional center for the arts.

For more information on the 2015 Chinese New Year Celebration visit www.CantonVillageTheater.org or call (734) 394-5300.

Wayne voters to decide on new millage

The voters in Wayne may have spoken in 2013, but members of the city council are going to ask them once again to approve a millage to fund police and fire pensions.

Council members approved two questions for the May 5 ballot. The first would establish a 345 police and fire pension program, taking the financial obligation out of the general fund. The second would approve the levy of 3 mills, or about $3 for every $1,000 of taxable value of property, to fund the program. The millage would be effective for five years.

If approved, officials said the 3 mills would generate about $1 million a year toward paying the looming unfunded pension liability.

The ballot questions were recommended by Councilman Al Damitio who had been assigned by Mayor James Hawley to work with the city finances portion of the deficit budget.

Tim McCurley, a former financial director in both the cities of Wayne and Westland, now a consultant with Plante Moran, informed the council during the same meeting that the estimated shortfall in the city budget had grown by $150,000 despite spending cuts council members have been making. The current budget deficit is $656,000 for this fiscal year and expected to be more than $1 million for 2015-2016. If that projection is correct, the council will need to trim at least another $1 million from the city budget, officials said.

Wayne voters soundly rejected the P.A. 345 proposal when it was placed on the ballot in 2013 and Councilman John Rhaesa questioned the timing of again asking voters to approve the questions in May, especially in light of a state road funding tax proposal on the same ballot.

Damitio said the timing was necessary in order to have the funds, if approved, available for the 2015-2016 budget. He said the city council members had a responsibility to prepare a "structurally balanced budget." Damitio said that the remaining deficit could be made up by spending reductions if voters approved the requests on the May ballot.

Damitio added that if voters did not approve the questions, "the money to support the pensions won't be there."

The current budget, with the $656,000 deficit was approved by the council members who included funds from a millage request rejected by voters last year.

Community activist Ron Roberts spoke to the council members during the citizen's comments portion of the meeting suggesting that it was time for the city to file bankruptcy.

"You've been just hanging on a little longer for years. You're technically bankrupt when you have people doing three or four jobs," said Roberts.

"It won't pass I can tell you and the governor's proposal won't pass."

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings – February 10, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. **Roll Call** Members Present: Anthony, Bennett, McLaughlin, Sneideman, Williams, Yack Members Absent: LaJoy Staff Present: Director Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Director Faas, Director Mutchler, Director Trumbull, Kristin Kolb Motion by Bennett, supported by Anthony to appoint Melissa McLaughlin as chair for the evening in the absence of Supervisor LaJoy. Motion carried by all members present. McLaughlin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to amend the agenda to move Consent Calendar Item C-7 Second Reading of an Amendment to the Township Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Businesses, By Adding A New Article VI Entitled "Smoking Lounges" to the General Calendar Item G-1A. Motion carried by all members present. **Approval of Minutes** Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to approve the Board Minutes of January 13, 2014 as presented. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to approve the Study Session Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2015 as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **Citizen's Non-Agenda Item Comments:** None **Payment of Bills** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve payment of the bills as presented for January 27, 2015. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve payment of the bills as presented for February 10, 2015. Motion carried by all members present. **CONSENT CALENDAR: Item C-1. Consider Authorizing the Township Clerk to Sign the Annual MDOT Permit for 2015 (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve the Township Clerk as the designated officer to execute the 2015 Annual Permit for Underground Utility Operations within the Michigan Department of Transportation right-of way. Motion carried by all members present. **Item C-2. Consider Authorizing Payment of $27,297 for Membership in the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to authorize payment of the invoice of $27,297 to continue Canton's membership in the Alliance of Rouge Communities. Motion carried by all members present. **Item C-3. Consider Approval of an Extension of Contract with Mattioli Cement Company for the 2015 Sidewalk Repair Program (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve a one year extension of contract to Mattioli Cement Company for the 2015 sidewalk repair program. Motion carried by all members present. **Item C-4. Consider Approval of a 2015 Budget Amendment for the Selectron Software Purchase (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve a budget amendment for the Selectron software purchase in an amount of $53,400 by increasing revenues: transfer from fund balance Account #101-000.695 by $53,400; and by increasing expenses: Capital Outlay Computers & Equipment Account #101-372.970_0010 by $53,400.Motion carried by all members present. **Item C-5. Reappointment to the CDBG Advisory Council (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to reappoint Katherine Martin to the CDBG Advisory Council for a two year term, effective January 1, 2015 and expiring on December 31, 2016. Motion carried by all members present. **Item C-6. Reappointments to the Canton Tax Board of Review (Supv)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve the reappointments of John Burdziak, James Malinowski, Anthony Rosati, Carol Richardson, and Mike Macyda to the Canton Tax Board of Review for a two-year term to expire on 3/1/17. Motion carried by all members present. **Item C-7. Moved to item G-1A Item C-8. Second Reading Of A Text Amendment To The Township Code Of Ordinances, Appendix A, The Zoning Ordinance, Adding A Definition For "Smoking Lounge" And Identifying The Zoning Districts Where Smoking Lounge Businesses Will Be Permitted To Operate (Supv)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to remove from the table and hold the second reading of a text ordinance which amends Appendix A to the Charter Township Code of Ordinances, the Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried by all members present. **STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON APPENDIX A AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX A – ZONING, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, MICHIGAN, BY AMENDING ARTICLE 1.00 – RULES OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEFINITIONS; ARTICLE 16.00—C-2, COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT; ARTICLE 17.00 - C—3, REGIONAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT; AND ARTICLE 18.00—C-4, INTERCHANGE SERVICE DISTRICT TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO SMOKING LOUNGES. THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS: SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO CODE. ARTICLE 1.00. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEFINITIONS * * * Sec. 1.03. – Definitions.** [Establish the following definition.] *Smoking Lounge*. Smoking Lounge shall mean an establishment, which has a State issued smoking ban exemption certificate, and that allows smoking of tobacco products or non-tobacco products or substances on the premises. The term "smoking lounge" includes, but is not limited to, facilities commonly described as tobacco retail specialty stores, cigar bars and lounges, hookah bars, cafés and lounges, tobacco bars and lounges, tobacco clubs or 0% nicotine establishments. **ARTICLE 16.00. C-2, COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT * * * Sec. 16.02. – Permitted Uses and Structures.** A. *Principal uses and structures.* 1. - 19. [Unchanged.] 20. Smoking Lounge, per the requirements of Chapter 18, Business Regulations. **ARTICLE 17.00. C-3, REGIONAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT * * * Sec. 17.02. – Permitted Uses and Structures.** A. *Principal uses and structures.* 1. - 11. [Unchanged.] 12. Smoking Lounge, per the requirements of Chapter 18, Business Regulations**. ARTICLE 18.00. C-4, INTERCHANGE SERVICE DISTRICT * * * Sec. 18.02. – Permitted Uses and Structures.** A. *Principal uses and structures.* 1. - 6. [Unchanged.] 20. Smoking Lounge, per the requirements of Chapter 18, Business Regulations. **SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY** If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application of thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalid the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provisions not have been included in this ordinance. **SECTION 3. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES** All Ordinance or parts of Ordinance is conflict herewith is hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect. **SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE** All rights and duties which have matured penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance. **SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE; PUBLICATION.** A public hearing having been held hereon pursuant to the provisions of Section 103 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of 2006, as amended, the provisions of this Ordinance shall be published within fifteen (15) days of its adoption of publications of a notice in a newspaper circulated in Canton Township stating the date of enactment and effective date, a brief statement as to its regulatory effect and that a complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public purchase, use and inspection at the office of the Township Clerk during the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Local Time. The provision of this Ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication. **CERTIFICATION** The foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton at its regular meeting called and held on the 10th day of February, 2015, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law. Terry Bennett, Clerk Introduced: January 24, 2015 Adopted: February 10, 2015 Published: February 19, 2015 Effective: February 26, 2015 **Item C-9. Consider Approval of Application for One Day Special Liquor License and Agreement for Canton Soccer Club Event (CLS)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to authorize the sale and consumption of alcohol at The Celtic Celebration on Saturday, June 6, 2015; and furthermore, I move that the following resolution be adopted: That the Canton Soccer Club, through its duly elected officers, make application to the MLCC for a Special License for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises to be in effect on Saturday, June 6, 2015 at Independence Park located on Denton Road in Canton, Michigan, County of Wayne and that the Township Clerk be authorized to sign and submit this application. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve the agreement between Canton Township and the Canton Soccer Club for the event on June 6, 2015. Motion carried by all members present. **Item C-10. Consider Authorization of a Sponsorship Agreement with Community Financial Credit Union (CLS)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to authorize the 2015 Sponsorship and Advertising Proposal with Community Financial Credit Union, 500 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 in the amount of $9,990. Motion carried by all members present. **GENERAL CALENDAR: Item G-1A. Second Reading Of An Amendment To The Township Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Businesses, By Adding A New Article VI Entitled "Smoking Lounges" (Supv)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to remove from the table and hold the second reading of an amendment to the Canton Township Code of Ordinances, which amends Chapter 18 by adding a new Article VI entitled "Smoking Lounges." Motion carried by all members present. **STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON CHAPTER 18 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED BUSINESSES, TO ADD ARTICLE VII, SMOKING LOUNGES, TO LICENSE AND REGULATE SMOKING ESTABLISHMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE TOWNSHIP AND PERSONS WITHIN ITS JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES. THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS: SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO CODE.** Chapter 18 of the Charter Township of Canton Code of Ordinances, as amended, is hereby amended by adding Article VII, entitled "Smoking Lounges," to read as follows: **ARTICLE VI. SMOKING LOUNGES DIVISION 1. GENERALLY Sec.18-401. Purpose.** Since the State of Michigan enacted Public Act 188 of 2009 to prohibit smoking in public places smoking lounges have become increasingly popular. Cigar Bars and Tobacco Specialty Retail Stores that qualify and were in existence on May 1, 2010, are exempt from the smoking in public prohibition. The State issues exemption certificates that may be transferred resulting in an increase in the number of establishments in the Township. Potential adverse impacts associated with these establishments have been identified such as large numbers of patrons during the evening and night time, crowds overflowing into parking areas and impeding on nearby businesses, leaving behind trash, broken alcohol bottles and debris, incidents requiring police response, fights, alcohol possession on unlicensed premises, traffic, noise, and complaints from neighboring businesses and residents. The purpose of this article is to regulate smoking lounges for the public health, safety, and welfare of the Township and persons within its jurisdictional boundaries; to prevent access to tobacco and non-tobacco smoking products by minors at these establishments, and to prevent the spread of smoke fumes to adjacent properties, and persons passing by these establishments. This article is designed to establish reasonable and uniform regulations to prevent potential adverse impacts relating to these establishments. The regulations adopted are designed to provide objective and orderly procedures for the administration of this article. **Sec. 18-402. Definitions.** For purposes of this article, the words, terms, and phrases shall be defined as follows: *Cigar* shall mean any roll of tobacco weighing three (3) or more pounds per 1,000, which roll has a wrapper or cover consisting of tobacco. *Cigar bar* shall mean an establishment or area within an establishment that is open to the public and is designated for the smoking of cigars that has a State issued exemption certificate. *Disqualifying criminal act* shall mean any of the following: (1) Any of the following misdemeanor or felony offenses under any of the following statutes, as amended, for which less than seven (7) years elapsed since the date of conviction or the date of release from confinement for the conviction, whichever is the later date: i. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter X, Arson and Burning; ii. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XI, Assaults, except MCL 750.81(1) and (2); iii. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XVII, Bribery and Corruption; iv Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XXII, Compounding Offenses; v Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XXVA, Criminal Enterprises; vi Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XXVIII, Disorderly Persons; vii Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XXXI, Embezzlement; viii. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XXXIII, Explosives, Bombs, Harmful Devices; ix. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XXXIV, Extortion; x. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XLIII, Frauds and Cheats; xi. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XLIV, Gambling; xii. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XLV, Homicide; xiii. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter XLVIII, Indecency and Immorality; xiv. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter LVIII, Mayhem xv. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter LXVII, Prostitution; xvi. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter LXVIIA, Human Trafficking; xvii. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter LXXVI, Sexual Conduct; xviii. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter LXXVIII, Robbery; xix. Michigan Penal Code, Chapter LXXXIII-A, Michigan Anti-Terrorism Act; xx. Michigan Compiled Laws, 333, Part 74, Controlled Substances – Offense and Penalties; xxi. Michigan Compiled Laws Section 205.27, Taxation-Prohibited Acts, including tax evasion. (2) Any attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit one of the foregoing offenses; or (3) Any offense enumerated in the Township Code of Ordinances which substantially corresponds to one of the foregoing state offenses; or (4) Any offense in another jurisdiction that, had the predicate act(s) been committed in Michigan, would have constituted any of the foregoing offenses. *Influential interest* shall mean any of the following: (1) actual power to operate or control the operation, management, or policies of a current or prospective business; including the manager of the prospective business, or (2) ownership of a financial interest in the business, or ownership of an interest that is ten percent (10%) or more of the total interest of a current or prospective business, including such business entities as a firm, partnership, limited partnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation; or (3) holding an office, such as, e.g., president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, managing member, managing director, etc., in a legal entity which operates a current or prospective business. *Minor* shall mean any person under eighteen (18) years of age. *Non-tobacco smoking products or substances shall* include any product or substance that can be consumed by smoking such as, but not limited to: e-cigarettes, bid is, kreteks, clover cigarettes, herbal cigarettes, electronic and herbal hookah, steam stones, smoking gels or other smoked product. *Premises* shall mean the location for which a smoking lounge establishment operates under a State issued exemption certificate and includes the land, and all improvements located thereon, including the primary building and all accessory and out-buildings, and is not limited to the smoking area. *Sale* shall mean, the exchange, barter, traffic, furnishing, or giving away of tobacco products and non-tobacco smoking products and substances which is regulated by the State of Michigan and pursuant to this article. *Smoking lounge* shall have the same meaning as is set forth in Sec. 1.03 of Appendix A to the Code of Ordinances. *State* shall mean the State of Michigan. *State issued exemption certificate* shall mean a valid exemption certificate issued by the State of Michigan for the premises, from the Public Act 188 of 2009 smoking in public ban which allows indoor smoking on the premises in compliance with the Act. *Tobacco product* shall mean a product that contains tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, non-cigarette smoking tobacco or smokeless tobacco as defined by the Tobacco Products Tax Act, MCL 205.422. *Tobacco specialty retail store* shall mean an establishment that has a State issued exemption certificate and for which the primary purpose is the retail sale of tobacco products, non-tobacco smoking products and substances, and smoking paraphernalia. **DIVISION 2. LICENSE Sec. 18-501. Business license required.** A person shall not operate a smoking lounge in the Township without first obtaining a smoking lounge business license issued pursuant to the provisions of this article. **Sec. 18-502. Application.** (a) *Information required*. An applicant for a smoking lounge license shall annually file in person at the office of the Township Clerk, a completed application made on a form provided by the Clerk. The application shall be signed as required herein and shall be notarized. An application shall be considered complete when it contains, for each person required to sign the application, the information and/or items required in paragraphs (1) through (9) below, accompanied by the required fee. (1) The applicant's full legal name and any other names used by the applicant in the preceding seven (7) years. If the applicant is a partnership, corporation, limited liability company, or other legal entity, then all persons with an influential interest in the entity shall be deemed an applicant and shall provide the information required by this article. Each applicant must be qualified under section 18-503, and each applicant shall be considered a licensee if a license is granted. (2) Current business address or another mailing address of the applicant. (3) Written proof of identity, in the form of a driver's license or a copy of a birth certificate accompanied by a picture identification document issued by a governmental agency. (4) The proposed business name, location, parcel identification number, mailing address and phone number. (5) A copy of the State issued exemption certificate for the premises; or if a transfer has been applied for, a copy of the application filed with the State. (6) The name and business address of the designated local agent who is responsible to supervise the premises and activities and who is authorized to receive service of process. (7) A statement of whether any applicant has been convicted of or has pled guilty or nolo contendere to a disqualifying criminal act as defined in this article, and if so, specify each criminal act involved, including the date, place, and jurisdiction of each, as well as, the dates of conviction and release from confinement, where applicable. This statement shall be accompanied by an authorization to conduct a criminal background check. (8) A statement as to whether any applicant has ever had a license revoked under the penalty provisions of the Michigan Liquor Control Code, PA 58 of 1998, as amended. (9) A statement as to whether any business in which an applicant has had an influential interest, has, in the previous seven (7) years, and at the time during which the applicant had the influential interest: i. Been declared by a court of law to be a nuisance, as defined under the Revised Judicature Act, MCL 600.3801; or ii. Been subject to a court order of closure or padlocking. (10) Statement of nature of proposed operation The information provided pursuant to paragraphs (1) through (10) of this subsection shall be supplemented in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Township Clerk within ten (10) working days of a change of circumstances which would render the information originally submitted false or incomplete. (b) *Signature required.* If a person who wishes to operate the business is an individual, the person shall sign the application. If a person who wishes to operate a business is other than an individual, each person with an influential interest in the business shall sign the application for a license as applicant. (c) *Disclosure.* The information provided by an applicant in connection with an application for a license under this article shall be maintained by the Township Clerk's Office and all personal information shall be deemed confidential and may be disclosed only as required by law or by court order. **Sec. 18-503. Issuance of license.** (a) *Pre-existing businesses*. All smoking lounges operating pursuant to a valid certificate of occupancy on the effective date of this ordinance are hereby granted a de facto temporary license to continue operating for a period of ninety (90) days following the effective date. During this period all smoking lounge businesses shall apply for a license pursuant to this article; and by the expiration date of ninety (90) days shall conform to all requirements for issuance of a license. (b) *Application review.* Upon the filing of a completed application for a smoking lounge business license, the Township Clerk shall forward a copy to the following departments or divisions: Building and Inspection Services Division, Department of Public Safety, and any other necessary department(s) or division(s), to review the application for compliance with the requirements of all applicable ordinances and codes. (c) The Township Clerk shall either issue a license to the applicant or issue to the applicant a written notice denying the application. The Township Clerk shall issue a license unless: (1) *Information*. An applicant has failed to provide information as required by section 18-502 for issuance of a license, or has falsely answered a question or a request for information on the application form; (2) *Fee.* The license application fee required by this article has not been paid; (3) *State exemption certificate.* The applicant does not have a valid State issued exemption certificate, the State has denied the application for a transfer, or the exemption has been revoked; (4) *Code compliance.* The subject premises lacks a current certificate of occupancy or does not comply with applicable building, zoning, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, health, or fire prevention codes. Upon filing an application for a building permit, plan review, or certificate of occupancy, the applicant shall also file a copy with the Township Clerk; (5) *Ventilation and parking.* The Building and Inspection Services Division indicates that the premises lack the ventilation and/or parking required for the proposed use; (6) *Unpaid fees.* Any of the reviewing departments or divisions has indicated that there are unpaid fees or uncured violations under its purview related to the subject premises; (7) *Ownership/lease*. The business does not own the premises for which a license is sought or does not have a current lease for the proposed licensed premises; (8) *Previous revocation/non-renewal.* An applicant has had a smoking exemption revoked, or not renewed for cause, in the last two (2) years under this article or a comparable Township or township ordinance or state law, whether in Michigan or otherwise; (9) *Prior nuisance*. Any business in which the applicant has had an influential interest, has, in the previous seven (7) years, and at the time during which the applicant had the influential interest: i. Been declared by a court of law to be a nuisance, as defined under the Revised Judicature Act, MCL 600.3801; or ii. Been subject to an order of closure or padlocking. (10) *Disqualifying criminal act.* An applicant has been convicted of, or pled guilty, or nolo contendere or no contest, to a disqualifying criminal act as defined in this article, or has had a license suspended under the Michigan Liquor Control Code; (11) *Additional licensing.* The business is not licensed to do business in Michigan or has not obtained a sales tax license. (d) *Reservation of authority.* Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this article, no applicant has a right to the issuance of a license; and the Township hereby reserves the right to determine who, if anyone, shall be entitled to the issuance of such a license, based on the objective criteria listed in this ordinance which relate to concerns for public health, safety, and welfare as identified herein. (e) *License contents; posting; possession.* The license, if granted, shall state on its face the name of the person or persons to whom it is granted, the number of the license issued to the licensee(s), the expiration date, and, the address of the business. The business license shall be posted in a conspicuous place at or near the entrance to the business so that it may be read at any time. (f) *Other laws applicable*. Nothing in this article shall be construed to exempt the licensee from any other requirements set forth by Township ordinance, state or federal law. **Sec. 18-504. Fees.** The fees for a license under this article shall be established by resolution adopted by the Township Board and shall be placed on file, and made available, at the office of the Township Clerk. **Sec. 18-505. Inspection.** Filing an application for a smoking lounge shall constitute consent to inspection by Township officials as provided herein, for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the specific regulations of this article. During Township business hours or at other mutually agreeable time, the applicant shall allow the representatives of Township departments onto the property and into the proposed licensed premises to complete an inspection. This section shall be narrowly construed by the Township to authorize reasonable inspections of the licensed premises pursuant to this article. **Sec. 18-506. Transfer of license.** (a) A licensee shall not transfer the license to another, nor shall a licensee operate a smoking lounge under the authority of a license at any place other than the address designated in the smoking lounge license application. Any transfer shall be grounds for suspension and revocation. A proposed transfer shall require a new application be filed and shall be subject to the same procedures, standards and fees required for a new license. Each location operated by a licensee requires a separate license. (b) Approval of the transfer of a State issued exemption certificate by the State of Michigan shall not abrogate the requirement to apply for and obtain a smoking lounge license as required by this article. There shall be no transfer into the Charter Township of Canton of a State of Michigan Exemption Permit under the Dr. Ron L. Davis Act of 2009; MCL 333.12601, et seq., as amended. **Sec. 18-507. Annual license, expiration.** The license issued under this article shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issue, unless otherwise suspended or revoked. A renewal license shall be obtained within thirty (30) days following expiration of the current license, and may be renewed only by making application and payment of the fee as required by this article. **DIVISION 3. DENIAL, SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, HEARING Sec. 18-601. Denial.** In the event the Township Clerk issues a written notice to deny for failure to comply with the requirements of section 18-503, the provisions of section 18-604 providing for an appeal hearing shall apply. **Sec. 18-602. Suspension.** The Township Clerk shall suspend the license for a period of thirty (30) days if the licensee has knowingly violated this article or has knowingly allowed an employee to violate this article. Upon receiving notice of a violation, the Clerk shall issue a written notice to suspend, which shall include the grounds for the suspension, the effective date of the suspension, and that the licensee may within twenty (20) days, request in writing, an appeal hearing before the Township Board pursuant to the provisions of section 18-604. The suspension shall take effect twenty-one (21) days after the date of the notice of suspension. **Sec. 18-603. Revocation; non-renewal.** (a) *Violation after previous suspension.* The Township Clerk shall issue a written notice of revocation if the licensee knowingly violates this article or has knowingly allowed an employee to violate this article and the licensee's license has been suspended within the previous twelve (12) month period. (b) *Grounds for revocation/non-renewal*. The Township Clerk shall issue written notice to revoke or non-renewal of the license if: (1) The licensee would not meet the standards set forth in section 18-503 if the licensee were an applicant for a new license. (2) The licensee has knowingly or recklessly allowed two (2) or more violations of the regulations of this article in the preceding twelve (12) month period. (3) The licensee has knowingly or recklessly allowed a nuisance, as defined under the Revised Judicature Act, MCL 600.3801, to be maintained upon the premises. (4) The subject premises have existing violations of building, zoning, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, health or fire prevention codes. (5) The operation of the licensed establishment has resulted in a pattern of patron conduct in the neighborhood of the establishment that continually and substantially disturbs the peace, order, and tranquility of the neighborhood. (6) The licensee has failed to maintain the grounds and exterior of the licensee's establishment by allowing litter, debris, and/or refuse to unreasonably remain on the property or adjoining properties. (7) The licensee knowingly or recklessly operated the business during a period of time when the license was suspended. (8) The licensee has knowingly or recklessly engaged in illegal activity or allowed any illegal activity to occur in or on the licensed premises, or has been found liable for a violation of the Michigan liquor control code. (c) *Effect of appeal of conviction*. The fact that any relevant conviction is being appealed shall have no effect on the revocation/non-renewal of the license, provided that, if any conviction which serves as a basis of a license revocation/non-renewal is overturned or reversed on appeal, that conviction shall be treated as null and of no effect and the license shall be reinstated. (d) *Effective date*. The revocation/non-renewal shall not take effect for twenty-one (21) days from the date of the notice of revocation/non-renewal. (e) *Appeal.* The written notice to revoke/non-renewal, shall include the grounds for the revocation/non-renewal, the effective date of the revocation/non-renewal, and that the licensee may request in writing, within twenty (20) days of the date of the notice of suspension, or revocation/non-renewal, an appeal hearing before the Township Board pursuant to the provisions of section 18-604. If not appealed, the suspension shall take effect twenty-one (21) days after the date of the notice of suspension. **Sec. 18-604. Appeal hearing.** (a) *Notice of hearing.* Upon receipt of a request for appeal, the Township Board shall provide the licensee with notice and an opportunity to be heard. The Township Board shall serve notice upon the licensee by certified mail, not less than twenty (20) days prior to the hearing date. The notice shall state: (1) The date, time and place of the hearing. (2) A statement that the licensee may present evidence and testimony, and may be represented by an attorney. (b) *Hearing and decision*. The hearing shall be conducted by the Township Board and shall be open to the public. The Township Board shall submit to the licensee a written statement of its findings, decision, specific grounds for its decision, and a statement that the decision may be appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction. **DIVISION 4. REGULATIONS Sec. 18-701. Zoning Requirements.** A smoking lounge may only be located in permitted zoning districts as identified in Appendix A to this Code of Ordinances, the Zoning Ordinance. **Sec. 18-702. Limitation.** There shall be no more than five (5) smoking lounge businesses granted licenses and operating in Canton Township at any given time. **Sec. 18-703. Hours of operation.** Businesses operating a licensed smoking lounge shall be closed between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on any day. No one shall be allowed on the premises except employees after midnight. Only a minimum of three (3) employees shall remain on the premises after midnight and shall carry proof of employment, such as an identification badge. The manager and/or employees shall provide proof of employment when requested to do so by a member of the Police Department. Only employees and/or contractors shall remain on the premises after closing and shall carry proof of employment. **Sec. 18-704. Local agent on premises.** The licensee, or the local agent designated in the application, shall remain on the premises while open for business to supervise the activities and shall be responsible to ensure compliance with the regulations of this article. In the event a licensee changes the local agent, the licensee shall immediately notify the Clerk in writing of the name and business address of the new local agent. All managers or local agents shall be over the age of twenty-one (21) years old. **Sec. 18-705. Mechanical ventilation required.** Mechanical ventilation shall be supplied in compliance with the Michigan Mechanical Code to ensure sufficient ventilation of the smoking lounge. The recirculation and the natural ventilation of air from the smoking lounge is prohibited; and the air supplied to the smoking lounge shall be exhausted and discharged to an approved location in compliance with the Michigan Mechanical Code. **Sec. 18-706. Off-street parking required.** Off-street parking shall be provided for the smoking lounge business. The minimum amount of parking shall be calculated by utilizing the parking requirements listed for bars and lounges contained in the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance. **Sec. 18-707. Storage lockers prohibited**. Storage lockers shall be prohibited on the premises of a smoking lounge, except that on-site humidors may be permitted in the smoking area of a cigar bar. **Sec. 18-708. Outdoor activities prohibited.** There shall not be any outdoor activities, outdoor public admission events, or outdoor seating. The business activities shall be conducted wholly indoors. In no event shall designated on-site parking areas be used for any other purpose than parking of passenger vehicles. To ensure that the smoke is contained within the smoking area, all windows and doors shall remain closed to ensure that the smoke does not infiltrate nonsmoking areas and is not emitted to passersby. **Sec. 18-709. Loitering, exterior lighting, and monitoring requirements.** It shall be the duty of the licensee or the designated local agent to: (a) *Signs*. Post conspicuous signs stating that no loitering is permitted on the premises; no minors are permitted on the premises; and patrons must leave the parking area immediately upon close of the business; (b) *Monitor*. Designate one (1) or more employees to monitor, while the premises are open for business, the activities of persons on the premises by visually inspecting the interior and exterior of the premises at least once every ninety (90) minutes or inspecting the premises by use of video cameras and monitoring; (c) *Exterior.* Ensure lighting of the exterior premises is provided, including all parking areas, for visual inspection and security. All exterior lighting shall comply with all provisions of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance; (d) *Parking area.* The licensee shall ensure that patrons are not parking in adjacent or neighboring parking lots or in residential areas that are not part of the parking area approved on the site plan for the licensed premises. **Sec. 18-710. Disturbing the peace**. The licensee or local agent, shall be responsible to maintain the premises to ensure there is not a violation of the Code of Ordinances, section 46-294, for disturbing the peace. If the licensee or designated local agent is convicted for a violation of 46-294, the conviction shall be grounds for revocation, denial or suspension of a license. **Sec. 18-711. Prohibited activities.** It is unlawful for a licensee or local agent to knowingly violate the following regulations or to knowingly allow an employee, patron or any other person to violate the following regulations. The licensee or local agent shall remove anyone violating the following regulations: (a) *Minors prohibited.* No one shall be allowed on the premises of a smoking lounge business unless the individual is eighteen (18) years of age or older. The licensee and local agent shall ensure that identifications of individuals on the premises have been checked to determine that every individual is eighteen (18) years of age or older before entry into the premises. The exit doors shall be monitored to ensure that no one is attempting to gain secret entry into the premises. A sign shall be posted near the entrance stating "No one under the age of eighteen (18) allowed." (b) *Alcoholic liquor.* No person shall sell, offer for sale, trade, provide, allow, possess, consume or attempt to consume any alcoholic liquor on the premises unless the licensee has obtained the appropriate license from the Liquor Control Commission pursuant to MCL 436.1101 *et seq*., as amended. (c) *Nudity prohibited.* No one shall be allowed on the premises of a smoking lounge business to appear nude or in a state of nudity as defined in section 18-141 of this chapter. (d) *Controlled substances prohibited*. It shall be unlawful to sell or permit to sell, offer for sale, trade, provide, allow, possession, consumption or attempt to consume any controlled substance on the premises in violation of Article 7 of the Public Health Code, MCL 333.1101 *et seq*. **Sec. 18-712. Penalties and enforcement.** (a) *Misdemeanor.* A person who violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum fine of five hundred dollars ($500.00) and/or a maximum of ninety (90) days imprisonment. Each day a violation is committed, or permitted to continue, it shall constitute a separate offense and shall be treated as a separate offense. **SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY** If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application of thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalid the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provisions not have been included in this ordinance. **SECTION 3. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES** All Ordinance or parts of Ordinance is conflict herewith is hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect. **SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE** All rights and duties which have matured penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance. **SECTION 6. PUBLICATION The** Clerk for the Charter Township of Canton shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law. **SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE** This Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law. **CERTIFICATION** The foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton at its regular meeting called and held on the 10th day of February, 2015, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law. Terry G. Bennett, Clerk Introduced: January 24, 2015. Adopted: February 10, 2015 Published: February 19, 2015 Effective: February 19, 2015 Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to change Sec. 18-703. Hours of operation in the Ordinance to read: "Businesses operating a licensed smoking lounge shall be closed between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on any day". Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to set the fee for a Smoking Lounge license at $200.00. Motion carried by all members present. **Item G-1. Consider Approval of the Final Site Plan for Torrey Hill Site Condominiums Phase II (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to adopt the following resolution. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **Final Site Plan Approval for Torrey Hill Site Condominiums Phase II WHEREAS,** the Project Sponsor, Mr. Jon Goldman, has requested final site plan approval for Torrey Hill Site Condominiums Phase II to be located on Beck Road between Cherry Hill and Saltz Roads, identified as tax EDP #063-99-0006-703; and, **WHEREAS,** the Planning Commission reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant final site plan approval, as summarized in the attached written analysis and recommendation. Torrey Hill Site Condominiums Phase 2 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. Jon Goldman, to approve the final site plan for the proposed Torrey Hill Site Condominiums Phase II subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff including submission of a revised master deed and by-laws containing the previously mentioned statements and revision of the tree plan and landscape plan to show accurate unit numbers, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. **Item G-2. Consider Approval of an Extension of the Contract with HydroCorp Incorporated (formerly HydroDesigns) to Implement Canton's Cross Connection Control Program (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve a three year extension of the professional services contract with HydroCorp, Inc. to provide management services and inspections for the Township's Cross Connection Control Program for an amount of $32,820 per year; and Further, authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the agreement on behalf of the Township. Motion carried by all members present. Trustee Yack requested moving Item G-6 to be the next item on the agenda to accommodate an audience member. The chair agreed. **Item G-6. Approve the Canton Tax Board of Review Guidelines for Hardship and Value Appeals (Supv)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve the value and hardship appeal guidelines to be used by the Tax Board of Review in 2015. Motion carried by all members present. **Item G-3. Consider Approval of a Budget Amendment and an Increase Purchase Order 2014-00001186 for Abandonment and Removal of an Existing Sanitary Force Main Associated with the Warren-Lotz Sanitary Sewer Diversion Project to Stante Excavating Incorporated (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to approve a budget amendment by: increasing Expenditures 402-302.801_0040 Capital Projects Professional & Contr. $19,700; and increasing revenues 402-000.695 Fund Balance Appropriation $19,700. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams to increase Purchase Order 2014-00001186 to Stante Excavating by $19,700 for a total not to exceed $116,900, which includes a 10% contingency, to perform the force main abandonment work as part of the Warren-Lotz Sanitary Sewer Diversion Project. Motion carried by all members present. **Item G-4. Consider Award of a Contract with Interstate Security Incorporated for Security System Upgrades at the Public Works Facility (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to award a contract for security system upgrades at the Public Works facility to Interstate Security Incorporated for $66,030, plus a 5% contingency, for a total not-to-exceed amount of $69,350. Motion carried by all members present. **Item G-5. Consider Approval of a Budget Amendment and Change Order for Wade Trim Associates for Additional Construction Engineering Services (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to approve a budget amendment to increase expense account #402-302.801_0040 Professional and Contractual Services by $13,500 and to increase revenue account #402-000.695 Fund Balance Appropriation by $13,500

BELLEVILLE - CANTON

Patriot Park to be open house topic

The Canton Leisure Services department wants to know what residents want at Patriot Park.

Located on the northwest corner of Ford and Ridge Roads, Patriot Park is currently 134 acres of undeveloped land that was acquired by Canton Township through a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant for the purpose of creating a large community park, which would provide both passive and active recreation opportunities.

The department is in the process of updating the master plan for the park and officials are seeking input from the public regarding the facility. An open house scheduled specifically to hear public comments on the plan has been scheduled for 6:30-8 p.m. Feb. 25 at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

Residents can visit the Summit Arts II room to provide comments on the master plan draft for Patriot Park. The draft plan is available for review at www.cantonfun.org. Hard copies are also available for review during regular business hours at the Summit on the Park front desk and at the Canton Leisure Services Administrative Office, located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

Canton residents can also provide feedback about the Patriot Park Master Plan Draft by taking an online survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PatriotParkUpdate2015, which will be available through Monday, March 9.

"Members of our community now have an opportunity to submit their feedback which is of critical importance to the success of our planning process for Patriot Park," said Brad Sharp, parks manager. "The community also has a chance to direct where we're headed with the development of Patriot Park to include natural spaces, trails, athletic opportunities and other desired amenities."

Participants are asked to register for the open house by calling (734) 394-5360 or by emailing leisure@canton-mi.org.

Canton Library Book Project seeks 'book givers'

Nearly everyone has a favorite book. It's the one they recommend to others over and over again and often is responsible for changing an outlook or even a life.

Staff members at the Canton Public Library are offering readers the chance to share that book with others in the community who, for whatever reason, don't read for pleasure or own books. The Canton Book Project is a chance to share the love of reading by giving books to others by becoming a book giver. Book givers will have the opportunity to distribute a book of their choice to other members of the community at any reading level.

Applications to become a book giver are now being accepted from readers of all ages. Those accepted will agree to attend the Canton Book Project reception and distribution night April 16 and hand out all of the book provided by April 30. Book givers must also seek out others who don't regularly read as recipients of books and allow their image and name to be used by the library for promotion about the program.

Aided with a grant from Pitney Bowes Inc., and support of the Friends of the Canton Public Library, the library will purchase copies of nominated titles to be distributed.

Applications, available online at www.cantonpl.org, are due by 6 p.m. March 7.

"The purpose of the project is to give people the opportunity to share their love of a book that is special to them with others in the community," said Laura Fawcett, program librarian at the Canton Public Library. "By reaching out to non-readers, we hope to create a spark that creates an engaged, well-informed community of readers."

To learn more about the Canton Book Project, or to access a Book Giver application, go to https://www.cantonpl.org/blog/post/introducing-canton-book-project

Summit offers 'cure' for winter time doldrums

Jason Lombardo may have the cure for the winter blahs.

Lombardo, the coordinator at the Summit on the Park in Canton said that the chilly winter months are the perfect time to head indoors and take advantage of the variety of recreational activities for individuals and families the Summit offers.

"With recreation opportunities for the whole family, the Summit can help you beat the winter doldrums and keep seasonal lethargy at bay," Lombardo said. "Whatever the size of your family or the schedule of your week, you can stay active in the winter months at the Summit."

The Summit provides open gym time throughout the week. Check summitonthepark.org for hours and availability and beginning Feb. 23, the Summit Aquatic Center will offer daily open swim times from 7-9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays; from 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fridays and from 1:30-5:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

Another option for families with younger children is Bartlett's Boot Camp, a weekly 25-30 minute parent/child fitness class that is appropriate for children ages 2-12 and their parents. Bartlett's Boot Camp takes place Tuesdays in the Summit gym from 6-6:30 p.m. and encourages movement and healthy habits while having fun in a family atmosphere, Lombardo said.

Bartlett's Boot Camp is followed by family open gym time from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays. The class is free for Summit members and $5 per child for non-members.

For more information about Summit on the Park, visit www.SummitonthePark.org or call (734) 394-5460.

The Summit on the Park is located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

Robbery suspect takes plea bargain in court, avoids prison time

A Van Buren Township man will serve five years on probation for his part in the robbery of a Canton man's home and the theft of his car.

Eric Lee Taylor, 35, accepted a plea bargain from prosecutors who dropped charges of identity theft, receiving and concealing stolen property less than $20,000, auto theft and using a financial transaction device (credit card) without consent. He entered a guilty plea to one count of unarmed of robbery and was sentenced to last week by Wayne County Circuit Court Judge James Callahan.

The robbery took place in the home of a 42-year-old Canton Township man with whom Taylor had a year-long relationship which began with an online Craig's List meeting, according to police. Taylor was accused of arranging for two other unnamed suspects to go to the victim's home located on Hunter's Way, near Geddes and Canton Center roads, and steal his 2012 Ford Escape, a laptop computer and a credit card.

The stolen vehicle was located in Ypsilanti and police found the victim's laptop computer at Taylor's Van Buren Township residence, according to police.

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Charter Township of Canton, Division of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Charter Township of Canton, Division of Public Works, 1150 S. Canton Center, Canton, Michigan 48188. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Division of Public Works at 734/394-5150 for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

THANK YOU
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Publish: February 19 and February 26, 2015 EC021915-1072 2.5 x 1.795

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, March 5, 2015 for the following:

FERTILIZER AND PLANT PROTECTANTS

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at www.canton-mi.org, or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish 2/19/2015 EC021915-1073 2.5 x 1.795

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
NOTICE TO PUBLIC
BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 12, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The following is the schedule for March Board of Review.

Tuesday, March 3, 2015	Organizational Meeting - 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (No Appointments)
Monday, March 9, 2015	Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Tuesday, March 10, 2015	Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Wednesday, March 11, 2015	Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Thursday, March 12, 2015	Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)

Please be advised that on Tuesday March 10 after 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday, March 11 after 4:30 p.m. entry to the building can only be accessed through the front entrance of the Township Hall.

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Jamie Rohraff, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

EC021915-1070 2.5 x 4.413

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK
Charter Township of Canton Township

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon a two week notice to the Charter Township of Canton. These services include signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

Gwyn Belcher, ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-5260

Published: February 19, 2015 EC021915-1069 2.5 x 1.557

Continued from page 2

Purchase Orders. I further move to authorize the Finance & Budget Director to increase Blanket Purchase Orders that are directly tied to contractual obligations whereby increased participation/usage require additional expenditures, or are in a fiduciary capacity; and to decrease Blanket Purchase Orders as necessary when the actual obligations are less than initially requested. Motion carried by all members present. **Item G-9. Consider Approval of a Budget Amendment and Award of Contract to Cribley Drilling Company to Install Ground Water Well at the Canton Sports Center (CLS)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to approve the budget amendment: Increase Revenues: Transfer from fund balance Account #246-000.695_0001 by $50,444.65 (2014 balance of unspent funds from the Capital Outlay Infrastructure Account) Increase Expenses: Capital Outlay Infrastructure # 246-441.970_0050 by $50,445 (Amount will increase account from $280,000 to $330,445)Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Sneideman to award a contract with Cribley Drilling Co. Inc, 8300 Dexter-Chelsea Road, Dexter MI 48130-9786, for installation of an irrigation ground water well system at the Canton Sports Center in the amount not-to-exceed $53,204.80 from budget Account # 246-41.970_0050, Community Improvement Fund - Capital Outlay Infrastructure. Motion carried by all members present. **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ms. Makki asked when the new ordinance would become effective. Ms. Kolb replied the ordinance will be effective on February 19, 2015 and businesses will have 90 days to make application. **OTHER:** Trustee Sneideman commented on Friday, March 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. the Partnership for the Arts is holding their fund raiser at the Village Theater. Ticket Prices are $35/person. On Saturday, March 7, 2015 from 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. the Canton Community Foundation is holding their fundraiser at the Henry Ford Museum 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, MI 48124. Ticket Prices: $175/person; $1200/table of 8. **ADJOURN:** Motion by Anthony, supported by Williams to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried by all members present.
Terry G. Bennett, Clerk

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the Clerk's office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, 734-394-5120, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval. Publish: February 19, 2015 EC021915-1074 5 x 21 + 2.5 x 2.334

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA
March l2, 2015

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals **THURSDAY, March 12, 2015 at 7:00 PM**. The meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188.

7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Jim Cisek, Craig Engel, Julia Perkins, Vicki Welty, Alan Okon
Alternate: Gregory Demopoulos

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes: February 12, 2015 Minutes

General Calendar:

Canton Senior Leasing, LLC, Applicant and Project Representatives, Tami Hunt and David Stobb, Owners Bryce Brendtke and Gary L. Brendtke for property at 3648 Canton Center S and Owners Larry Bell and Jennifer Bell at 3698 Canton Center S, Canton, MI 48188 located on the West side of Canton Center Rd between Geddes and Dionne Roads, appealing Section 26.02 footnote b, minimum lot width to depth ratio in the R-1 and R-2 zoning districts to allow a property split. Parcel 112-99-0011-000 and 112-99-0010-000 (Planning).

Dennis Krestel, Applicant and Project Representative for property at the SE corner of Ford Rd and Oakview Dr, appealing Section 6.10 for site development standards for the Central Business District Overlay, Section D-Schedule of Regulations, C-2 District, front, rear and side yard setbacks including footnotes b, c, d and e. Parcel 057-99-0001-712. (Planning)

Written comments need to be submitted prior to 4:00 PM on the date of the hearing. All written comments must be sent to the Charter Township of Canton, Clerk's Office, 1150
S. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48188, Phone 734-394-5120.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two a week notice to the Charter Township of Canton. These services include signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

Gwyn Belcher, ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188 (734) 394-5260

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Northville - Plymouth

Northville teen is 'Distinguished Young Woman'

Vivian Zhong of Northville has been chosen as the winner of the 57th Annual Distinguished Young Women of Michigan Scholarship Program.

The title and $2,550 scholarship were awarded during ceremonies at Saline High School on Jan. 24.

Zhong won top honors in the talent portion of the event with her performance of a classical Bach piano piece. She also won top honors in physical fitness, interview, self expression and scholastics portions of the event.

Zhong attends Northville High School where she is a member of the National Honors Society, the varsity pom pon on squad and the Science Olympiad Club. Her career goal is to attend the University of Michigan and become a pediatrician.

Zhong will represent Michigan at the Distinguished Young Woman of America Scholarship Program in Mobile, Ala. in June. The fully-paid, two-week trip is provided by the Distinguished Young Women of America organization. Zhong is also eligible for many full-ride scholarships at various colleges around the country through the national program.

"This was an incredibly talented group of young women and we are so excited with the new Distinguished Young Woman of Michigan. She will be an excellent representative at statewide functions throughout the year and also at the nationals in Mobile Ala." said State Director Angela Bobo.

The Distinguished Young Women of Michigan is a member of the Saline Area Chamber of Commerce. Seventeen contestants from around the state of Michigan competed and were awarded a total of $7,500 in college scholarships.

Vivian Zhong

Annual charity game dinner generates $90,000

The Constantino Del Signore (CDS) Foundation is celebration the success of the recent Wild Game Dinner which generated $90,000 to help open Tino's Farm, substance abuse recovery center.

The 22nd annual dinner which drew a capacity crowd of 900 included an assortment of appetizers prior to a delicious family-style wild game dinner, a silent auction, a live auction, raffles and several prizes. The crowd increased by 100 from the record 800 who attended the event last year, according to Richard Asztalos, the president of the CDS Foundation.

"Through the years, the foundation has had the opportunity to raise money for so many good causes throughout the community," Asztalos said. "We have hundreds of people who have supported us through the years and they tell us how they always have a great time at the Wild Game Dinner event."

Tino's Farm, a 35-acre facility in South Lyon, is scheduled to open in February with the support of Dawn Farms founder Jim Balmer and under the direction of Jason Schwartz. The purpose of the farm is to provide substance abuse recovery in safe and affordable housing, said Asztalos.

The facility and foundation are named in honor of Tino Del Signore, a 47-year-old local man who was known for his generosity and philanthropic work throughout his life. The fundraiser is intended to carry on that legacy through the foundation he started about 20 years ago, Asztalos added, and "since then thousands of dollars have been donated to various causes."

"He gave so much to people," Asztalos said. "He had the biggest heart in the world. After his death, we changed the focus of the foundation. If we save one kid we are saving a family of people. We are talking with organizations about programs that can be done at the farm. Most important is to build the awareness of substance abuse. There's an epidemic right now," he added.

The next fundraiser for the 501 © 3 non-profit organization will be Aug. 23, when the group hosts the 4th Annual Barbeque on the farm, located at 55880 Eight Mile Road, co-sponsors by Livonia Save Our Youth, Families Against Narcotics, St. Mary Mercy Hospital and Botsford Hospital.

Asztalos stressed that all proceeds from CDS Foundation programs are directed to Tino's Farm and charities without any administrative costs.

Northville Tipping Point presents 'Leaving Iowa'

Leaving Iowa, is a rewarding journey about family and nostalgia, now playing at the Tipping Point Theater in Northville.

As the play begins, newspaper columnist Don Browning is searching for the perfect spot to scatter his Dad's ashes years after his death. Audiences can join him as he sets out on a solo journey across the Midwest and through some of the zany and emotional family road trip vacations he took with his Dad, Mom, and sister. Through the long stretches of corn fields, conflicts with siblings, and the tourist traps that litter his memories, he rediscovers his love and admiration for his Dad. Leaving Iowa is a rewarding journey - one that goes beyond nostalgia and into the very nature of families and the joys and experiences that bind us together.

"Since this production is a memory play so much of it takes place in flashbacks in the son, Don's, memory. This allows for an opportunity to see the backstory of the characters. It also allows for more freedom and creativity in the characters and scenes," noted director Beth Torrey.

"Audiences can expect to laugh a lot and also be touched by this story. It is also extremely relatable to all- who hasn't taken some kind of family road trip at some point in their life."

Leaving Iowa performances are scheduled at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, through March 8. Matinee performances take place at 3 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday.

The theatre is located at 361. E. Cady St. in Northville. Tickets are $29 to $32 for adults and $27 to $30 for students and senior citizens, and are available now by calling the box office at (248) 347-0003.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY OF INKSTER, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

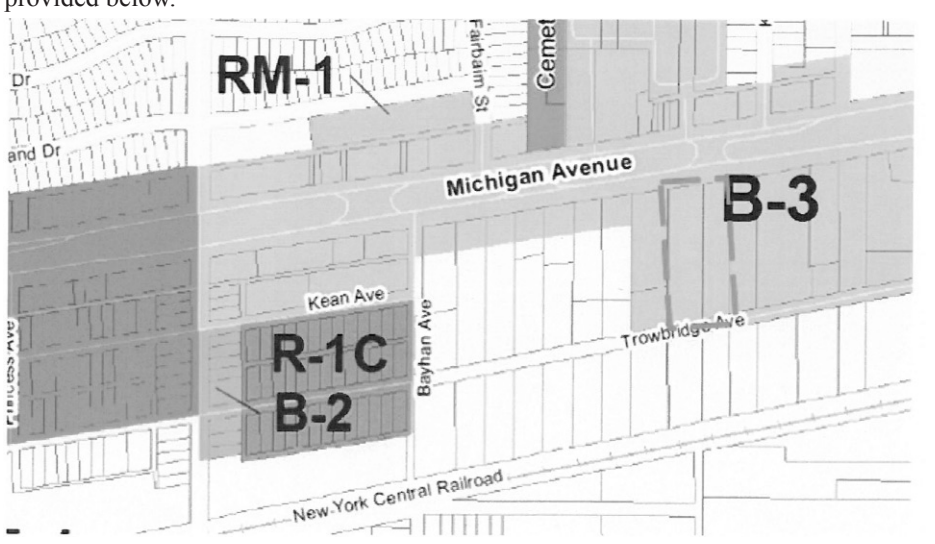
RE: Case #ZC 14-09 Proposed Amendment to the Zoning Map - Conditional Rezoning

In accordance with and pursuant to the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, Act 110 of 2006, as amended, notice is hereby given that the City of Inkster Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, March 9, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.**, in the Inkster City Hall Council Chamber, located at 26215 Trowbridge, Inkster Michigan, 48141, to consider a proposed amendment to the City's Zoning Map.

At the public hearing, the Planning Commission will consider the following amendments to the Zoning Map:

1. Conditional rezoning of the rear portion of the property located at 26051 Michigan Avenue from B-3 General Business District to M-1 Light Industrial District to permit use of the site for a warehouse.

The land involved consists of the following: THAT PART OF LOT 8 SUBDIVISION O THE NE ¼ OF E ½ OF THE NW ¼ OF SEC 30 LIBER 1 OF PLATS PAGE 26 ALSO OF LOTS 1 AND 2 FELLRATHS WESTWOOD GARDENS SUB LIBER 68 OF PLATS PAGE 99 DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE N LINE OF TROWBRIDGE AVE DISTANT N 1D 33M 10SEC W ALONG THE E SECTION LINE 1836.85 FT AND S 77D 27M 09SEC W 354.15 FT AND 77D 18M W 393.08 FT FROM THE E ¼ CORNER OF SEC 30 AND PROCEEDING TH ALONG SAID N LINES S 77D 18M W 110.35 FT AND S 77D 19M 57SEC W 119.21 FT N 1D 43M 50SEC W 508.45 FT TH ALONG THE S LINE OF MICHIGAN AVE N 78D 29M 37SEC E 128.04 FT AND S 79D 30M 54SEC E 100 FT THE S 1D 43M 0SEC E 499.71 FT TO THE POB CONTAINING 2.61 ACRES SUB OF NE ¼ & E ½ OF NW ¼ OF SEC 30. A map showing the location of the site is provided below.



The application including statement of conditions offered is on file and available for review at the City of Inkster Community Development Department. Public comments are invited and encouraged. Persons unable to attend the public hearing may send their comments in writing to the attention of the City of Inkster Community Development Department, 26215 Trowbridge, Inkster, Michigan, 48141. Comments will be received through 12:00 noon, Monday, March 9, 2015. Please reference Midwest Recycling Conditional Rezoning.

The City of Inkster will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the public hearing, to individuals with disabilities upon five (5) business days written notice. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or serves should contact the City of Inkster at 313.563.9770.

Felicia Rutledge
Inkster City Clerk

PUBLISH: February 19, 2015

Community Development Department • 313.563.9760

PLYMOUTH

Snow machine purchase heats up meeting

Don Howard
Staff Writer

The purchase of a cold weather amenity led to some hot tempers during the meeting of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees last week.

A request by Treasurer Ron Edwards for board action to approve the purchase of a SMI-Snow Markers Inc. PoleCat Snow Gun snowmaking machine prompted questions from the audience and Trustees Bob Doroshewitz and Chuck Curmi.

Edwards told Trustees the machine was required right away so they could see if they had adequate water pressure and find out if, "it works."

Doroshewitz asked several questions about the safety of adding the machine to the public sledding hill in the township park, including the impact on insurance coverage and township liability should injuries occur.

His questions prompted vociferous answers from both Township Supervisor Richard Reaume and Edwards, along with loud comments from members of the audience that prompted an unscheduled 10-minute recess called by Reaume.

The proposed motion to purchase did not include background information about the equipment, an operational budget or a time line for the installation. The information packet submitted to board members included only a single $21,820 line item price quote and six pages from the manufacturer's sales catalog.

Doroshewitz said his concerns were not about the specifications or the cost, but what he described as safety concerns for children and citizens and liability for the township.

"I don't think this is a good idea…you're creating a risk," he told Edwards.

> *I don't think this is a good idea… you're creating a risk.*

"No--I'm not," Edwards replied heatedly.

Curmi, too, expressed concern about turning the sledding hill into an "attractive nuisance."

Citing examples of communities across the country where sledding is being banned as a risk due to serious injuries, Doroshewitz said statistics show there are 20,000 sledding- related accidents each year.

"You get a written opinion from MMRMA (Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, the township insurance carrier) and from our township attorney, and I'll shut up," Doroshewitz said.

Edwards angrily denied Doroshewitz' risk claims.

"I've sat on this board for a number of years and all of sudden we've got to get an insurance opinion and the attorney's opinion before we can move something," he said.

"Someone has to be there to supervise," Doroshewitz said.

Reaume vehemently defended the purchase and the need, "Unsupervised hills provide lower risk than supervised hills," he said, obviously agitated, as several loud comments could be heard from audience members.

Reaume quickly rose from his seat at the table and heatedly shouted, "We're recessed," and ordered Police Chief Tom Tiderington to join him in the adjacent hallway.

While Reaume and Tiderington spoke across the hall, several residents stood and approached the dais to express their displeasure with the conduct of the officials to other board officials.

Reaume and Tiderington returned in 10 minutes and Reaume reopened the meeting.

Despite Doroshewitz' continued examples of potential liability, parking and staffing problems, the question was called and the immediate purchase of the $21,820 snow machine approved by a 4-3 vote. Trustees Doroshewitz, Curmi and Mike Kelly cast the opposing votes while Reaume, Edwards, Clerk Nancy Conzelman and Trustee Kay Arnold, the four board members currently facing a recall petition drive, carried the question.

Freezer Jam set Saturday

The Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps will be joined by some very special guests during the 20th anniversary Freezer Jam this month.

As the hosts of the annual conference of fife and drum corps event, which marks the special anniversary of the yearly gathering, the attending groups will be joined by The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, which will perform at the event. The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps is the official ceremonial unit and escort to the President of the United States. They are a premier musical organization and are truly amazing to witness in person, organizers of the event said.

The conference usually draws fife and drum corps from throughout the Midwest region who will gather for classes in music and marching in the morning and afternoon Feb. 21 at Stevenson High School in Livonia.

Freezer Jam 2015 will wrap up with a concert from 3-6 p.m. in the high school auditorium during which The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps will perform.

Tickets are available for the concert and "this is an extraordinary display of musical excellence and living history," organizers said. "The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps are a premier musical organization and are truly amazing to witness in person."

To purchase tickets for the Freezer Jam 2015 concert, priced at $15, visit www.freezerjam.org

Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps is an internationally renowned world class Fife & Drum Corps made up of students age 12 - 18 from Plymouth and surrounding communities. Practicing year round, members are dedicated to preserving the ancient arts of color guard, fifing, and drumming. They average 40-50 live performances during parades, patriotic celebrations, and other civic events throughout Michigan, Ohio and Canada. At the close of the summer performance season, the group tours to historical landmarks.

Stevenson High School is located at 33500 Six Mile Road in Livonia.

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Inkster - Romulus

Romulus High School offers college degrees

A unique opportunity to earn a college associates degree while still in high school is available to Wayne County students.

An informational meeting regarding the three-year accelerated program now available at Romulus High School is planned for 6 p.m. Feb. 26 at the school, when educators and administrators will answer questions and provide information about the program.

The early college classes allow students to earn an associates degree along with their high school diploma and applications for the classes are now being accepted, according to Liza Mockeridge of the high school guidance department.

The classes are tuition free and students can earn up to 60-62 transferable college credits or an associates degree along with their high school diploma.

> *"The classes are tuition free and students can earn up to 60-62 transferable college credits or an associates degree along with their high school diploma.*

Information from the school stated that the early college programs are based on the principle that academic rigor, combined with the opportunity to save time and money is a powerful motivator for students to work hard and meet serious intellectual challenges.

"Early college programs blend high school and college in a rigorous yet supportive program, compressing the time it takes to complete a high school diploma and the first two years of college in a college campus experience," according to information provided by the school.

The meeting will take place in the Romulus High School Media Center. The school is located at 9650 Wayne Road in Romulus. The classes are not limited to Romulus residents.

For more information, contact Mockeridge at (734) 532-1022.

Comedy Night planned

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce Comedy Night auction and dinner is planned for 6-10 p.m. March 13 at the Marriott Hotel at Detroit Metro Airport.

The evening will feature three comedy acts, dinner, a cash bar and several auctions.

Headlining the comedy event this year is Kevin Zeoli who has toured with Jim Gaffigan and Three Dog Night. Zeoli advises those who can't laugh at themselves to stare harder in the mirror.

Also performing will be stand up comedian Chris Young, who takes real life experiences and turns them into laughs. Mary Ann will also add her unique and colorful brand of humor to the evening with her colorful on-stage characters. She has been featured on ComicView and Comcast Comedy Spotlight.

According to Chamber Director Betsey Krampitz, the show sold out last year and early ticket purchase is suggested. Tickets are $45 per person and can be ordered from Krampitz at (734) 893-0694.

Sponsorship tables are still available and information and prices are available from Krampitz.

The Marriott Hotel is located at 30559 Flynn Dr. in Romulus.

Signed up

Romulus High School senior Darius Jackson signs his National Letter of Intent to play football at Ferris State University, where he will be playing wide receiver. He celebrates with, at left, his mother, Denise and father, Dwayne. Offering congratulations were, standing, left, Romulus High School Head Coach Thomas Patterson, school Principal Flinnoia Hall and Athletic Director Mark Woodson.

Straight Ahead

Straight Ahead concert set

The Inkster Public Library will be going "Straight Ahead" this month with a celebration honoring Black History Month by the renowned jazz ensemble.

The concert, titled Celebrate! The Music of African Americans, will begin at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at the library, explained Library Director Denise Bearre.

Straight Ahead is a groundbreaking jazz group with strong, inventive instrumentalists and vocalists with roots in the Detroit music scene. The group is well-known for their eclectic approach to creating music, Bearre said in a prepared release.

The group has shared the stage with Nina Simone, Kem, Tony Bennett, Jean Luc Ponty, Stanley Clarke and George Duke, among others and the group has been nominated for Grammy awards.

The group has traveled throughout the United States, the Caribbean and Europe performing for crowds of fans.

Seating is limited for this historical event, Bearre said

The Leanna Hicks Inkster Public Library is located at 2005 Inkster Road, one block North of Michigan Avenue. For more information call the library at (313) 563-2822 or visit www.inksterlibrary.org.

Mayor touts accomplishments, goals during state-of-city address

Mayor LeRoy Burcroff gave his second State of the City address last month before a capacity crowd at the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Burcroff talked about the initiatives completed in the city as well as a look ahead at upcoming 2015 projects.

Core values and ethics were consistent themes throughout Burcroff's address as he explained 50 tasks and projects. Of these "rocks," a term used by the Burcroff administration for priority assignments to be completed in each quarter, 91 percent were completed during the assigned quarter, he said.

Burcroff discussed the Fast Track Review Process in the city, a commitment to aid economic development in the city implemented in 2014. The plan coordinates the city economic development, planning and building departments to better serve interested developers and business people.

Burcroff spoke about the availability of the city cable programs and all city council meetings available on the YouTube Channel (www.youtube.com/user/CityofRomulus). Prior to this online channel, only residents within Romulus and subscribed to Comcast could view the city and community channels.

Burcroff said that last year the city administrative staff moved their weekly meetings to 10 different local businesses, "taking the show on the road" once a month to better the relationship between local business and the city.

Burcroff mentioned the improved operational efficiencies he has implemented, including relocating some departments. He said that a wall was removed at the Public Services Building, so that employees of the Building and Public Works departments could be cross-trained to better assist residents. The assessor's department was moved upstairs and located adjacent to the Finance and Water departments for the commonly combined customer requests.

Burcroff said that the city enjoys a balanced budget with a surplus. Health care costs have been locked in for the next four years at a rate lower than the 2012 rates and long-term legacy costs from retiree health care have been reduced by 27 percent, a $25 million long term savings for the city.

He mentioned the redesign of the city website which includes new sections to make interaction with the city easier.

To further improve communication, Burcroff said the city has implemented a quarterly newsletter that is mailed to all residents. The newsletter includes upcoming events, important news items and other need-to-know information for residents during each season.

> *"Credibility is what you earn after you do what you say you will do.*

Burcroff said that one of his primary goals was employee and community outreach which he spoke of last year during his State of the City address.

He listed several employee recognition events now implements, including a summer picnic, DPW Rodeo, and a fundraiser for an employee fighting cancer.

New community events in 2014 included Earth Day and Black History Month celebrations, a relocated Farmers Market, Veterans Day parade and program along with other donation drives to benefit veterans, enhanced Senior Center programming and city outreach at community events like the Pumpkin Festival.

Burcroff said that three parks were reopened in 2014: Elmer Johnson Park, Fernandez Park and Oakbrook Neighborhood Park (formerly Merriman Park).

He also spoke of the visioning process conducted by OHM Advisors on behalf of the city during the large part of 2014. Results of this process were presented to the Romulus City Council.

There were more than 600 residents, business owners and community members that contributed to the results of the vision. Overall, residents rated the quality of life in Romulus as 7.04 out of 10 and 90.4 percent of respondents stated they felt safe in the city.

Four key initiatives are being directed based on the results found during the visioning process: growing the local economy, enhance the local image and brand, improve transportation infrastructure and expand recreational opportunities, the mayor said.

"We learned from citizens that participated in the visioning process that they wanted the ability to shop in their city. The potential development of the Vining Road Outlets of Michigan (outlet mall), will provide greatly enhanced shopping opportunities," said Burcroff.

Based on the findings of the visioning process and continued work on the initiatives started in 2014, Burcroff previewed the first quarter "rocks" for 2015. These first tasks for the New Year included finding a long-term funding solution for local street repair and maintenance, creating an enhanced communication plan, developing a strategy for the Vining Road Development District and completing a professional marketing and branding campaign for the city.

Other programs scheduled for 2015 are the completion of Phase 2 construction on Goddard Road in the downtown area, the Wayne Road sidewalk project, continued enhancement and reopening of city parks, enhancements and upgrades of necessary computer software systems, updating the City Master Plan, completing an energy efficiency study of all city facilities and the completion of a feasibility study for a new district court and municipal campus along with a presentation to city council.

Burcroff ended his remarks with a quote by an unknown author, "Credibility is what you earn after you do what you say you will do."

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Wayne - Westland

City services will move to empty school

Residents looking for services at Wayne City Hall at the end of March will find the current building empty of staff and undergoing some serious construction.

More than $350,000 in repairs will be performed on the roof at the building, originally constructed in the 1940s. Roof trusses over the section used as the city council meeting room failed during the heavy snowfall of 2013-14. The building was remodeled as the city hall in 1988.

Officials said that city services would be moved to the abandoned Vandenberg Elementary School, located at 32101 Stellwagen. The city had proposed a lease with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools district for $1 a year. School officials rejected that offer and suggested the city pay the utility costs at the school which are about $7,678. The lease signed between the two entities is for 90 days although officials said they hope to have the repairs completed within 30-60 days. The city insurer, Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, will pay for nearly all the repairs and will also pay the cost of the lease and related costs of moving.

When the plan was discussed at a recent meeting of the city council, resident Ron Roberts suggested a move to the Community Center and resident Vern Amos asked why city hall services could not be moved into the Wayne Library and why such a move could not be made permanent.

Special guest

Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) welcomed local pastor Tyson Nofzinger of Westland Free Methodist Church, to provide the invocation for the opening of a Senate session last week. "I was very pleased to welcome Pastor Nofzinger to the Senate floor today," Hopgood said. "His words of encouragement and blessing remind us of the great responsibility we have as lawmakers to lead people, create smart policies, and manage resources for our state." Nofzinger was raised in Ohio and entered the ministry full time in 2005 after working as the director of technology, and as a part-time instructor at a community college. He and his wife, Bethany, have three daughters. He has served Westland Free Methodist Church since June 2012.

Schools end fiscal year with positive balance

While they may not have reached their goal, the fund equity balance in the Wayne Westland Community Schools District was very good news for the members of the board of education earlier this month.

Despite the loss of 315 students and $385,907 in vocational education tuition, the district will finish the 2014-2015 fiscal year with a projected general fund balance of $61,447, welcome news to the board members after several years of deficits. In addition, administrators said the fund balance in the district will be maintained at just under $3.8 million, which is below the 5-10 percent goal board members set for the district when the budget was approved last June. According to administrators, the district was able to cut nearly $800,000 in expenditures, offsetting the drop in revenue last year.

During the budgeting process, administrators used Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed $112 per-pupil increase and projected a decrease in enrollment of about 50 students. Final figures indicated that the district received a $175 per student state allotment and lost 315 students, which reduced that revenue by nearly $1.8 million. Wayne-Westland lost another $200,000 in vocational education tuition and a further $385,907 in state-funded special education tuition.

Those losses were offset by a savings of $263,288 in salaries, an additional $496,798 in local tax revenue and $1.1 million in state funding to offset increased in the state retirement program. The district also received $523,652 from Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) for special education services.

The district was able to save $438,777 in purchased services, administrators said.

The projected fund equity represents 3.6 percent of the current expenditure and represents two weeks of district operations, or one payroll.

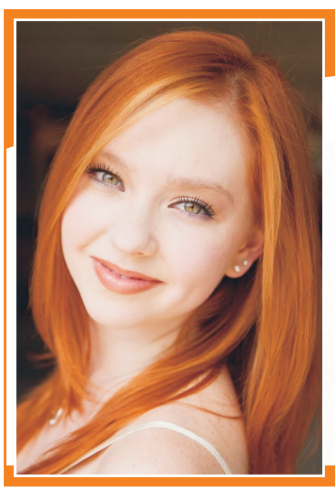
Officials celebrate grand opening of new fire station

Last week, officials from Wayne and Westland gathered for the official dedication of the new $3.1 million fire station located on Central City Parkway.

It was obviously a matter of great pride for both Mayor William Wild and Fire Chief Mike Reddy who spoke at the official ceremony, attended by a large crowd. The new station, built with Tax Increment Finance Authority funds, was also a matter of pride for members of the TIFA board.

The new 11,223-square-foot station is named in honor of Ralph Savini, the first Westland Fire Chief and Mary Morian, Savini's daughter, was in attendance to see the tribute to her father officially dedicated with the cutting of a large red ribbon by Wild, Reddy and City Council President James Godbout.

The station, which replaces the 50-year-old station on Ford Road next to the former city hall building, also features a training room, enhanced technology and is expected to cost less to operate due to advanced energy efficiencies in the lighting, heating and cooling systems, windows and other construction. The new station provide adequate storage for the larger fire vehicles now in use, officials said, and can also provide proper storage for hazardous material.



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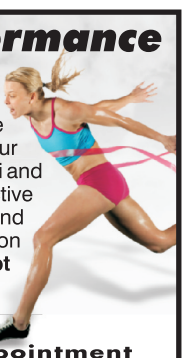

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Calendar of events

Batter up
Pancake breakfast benefit planned in Romulus

Employees at the 34th District Court in Romulus have planned an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast from 7-9 a.m. Feb. 27 at the Romulus Progressive Hall, 11580 Ozga Road in Romulus.

The benefit will aid Clifford West, a Romulus Police officer diagnosed with inclusion body mytositis, an incurable and progressively degenerative muscle disease. The disease forced West into a medical retirement from the police department and he is now dependent on an electric powered wheelchair for any mobility.

The family has faced some serious expenses that are not covered by insurance including the purchase of a wheelchair-accessible van which is in need of repairs. Numerous repairs and alterations are also needed at the family home to accommodate West's wheelchair.

Tickets to the breakfast event are $10 and include pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice. All money generated will go toward helping West and his family.

Casting call

Open auditions have been scheduled by Forever After productions for Beauty and the Beast, Jr. The Musical from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 22 and 23 at the rehearsal studio, 50429 Independence St. in Canton Township.

Performers ages 6-16 are being sought for the production which is the story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress.

Information and the audition packet are available at www.iheartforeverafter.com.

Students host record sale

The student radio station of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools will sponsor the seventh annual Record Show from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Salem High School cafeteria.

Collectors will find thousands of vinyl records, CDs, import only releases, t-shirts, posters and other items. The show will also feature special giveaways and door prizes.

Admission to the show is $3 and early admission between 9 and 10 a.m. is available for $5. Students at Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools receive free admission with a student identification. All proceeds benefit 88.1, The Park and will be used to help the station continue serving the community with unique programming and broadcast training for students. The record show is one of the main fundraisers for the station each year.

Salem High School is located at 46181 Joy Road in Canton at the corner of Joy and Center Center roads. The cafeteria is located on the first floor, just inside the main entrance of the school.

Library programs under way

New programs at the Belleville Area District Library began this week.

Monday Night Family Story Time began at 7 p.m. earlier this month and will continue through Feb. 23.

Tuesday Morning Terrific Toddlers began at 11 a.m. this week and will continue through Feb. 24 and Thursday Morning Terrific Toddlers began at 11 a.m. today and will continue through Feb. 26.

Registration for any of these programs is available at the library circulation desk.

The Write Stuff Writer's Group meets from 1-3 p.m. the last Saturday of every month. All aspiring writers are welcome.

Hygiene items needed

Plymouth Community United Way is asking agencies, businesses, groups, and residents of the Plymouth-Canton community to donate new travel size toiletry items including toothbrushes/paste, shampoo/conditioner, soap/body wash, deodorant, hand sanitizer, tissues, shaving cream, feminine products, razors, combs, and hair brushes. Donations will be used to create hygiene kits for individuals and families in crisis.

Collections will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 28. All donations can be dropped off at Plymouth Community United Way, 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2 in Plymouth.

For more information, e-mail randi.williams@pcuw.org or call (734) 453-6879 x7.

Food drive under way

Plymouth Community United Way and Chuck E. Cheese are sponsoring a month-long food drive at the restaurant, 42001 Ford Road in Canton. The effort will continue through Feb. 28.

Customers will receive 20 tickets for each nonperishable food item that is brought into Chuck E. Cheese. Tickets can be used toward the purchase of prizes. All nonperishable food items will go to local pantries serving Plymouth, Canton and Western Wayne County communities.

For more information, email randi.williams@pcuw.org or call (734) 453-6879 ext. 7.

Genealogy for beginners

Learn the basics of genealogy from experienced members of the Northville Genealogical Society from 10:15 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St., Northville.

The morning session will include instructions and participants should bring a lunch for the noon break. After lunch, classes will continue with a computer lab and hands-on help from professionals.

The classes are free but preregistration at (248)349-3020 is required.

Tax preparation available

Tax return preparation will be available from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through April 14 at the Summit on the Park.

The service is provided in cooperation with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

Complicated and/or joint return appointments must be scheduled for morning appointments. Schedule your appointment by phone at (734) 394-5485.

High school hosts information session

Northville High School will host a Community Information Session from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22. Visitors can tour the state-of-the-art, technology-equipped high school with student leaders as guides. Academic department chairs and representatives from athletic teams, student clubs, and music and art programs will be on hand to provide insight along with current students, administrators and parents.

Northville Public Schools commitment to excellence is evidenced in its Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), Michigan Merit Exam (MME), ACT and SAT performance, where Northville students consistently score well above state and national averages, a spokesperson noted.

While this information session is geared toward incoming freshmen for the 2015-16 academic year, families with students of all ages, as well as community members, are welcome.

Northville High School is located at 45700 Six Mile Road, Northville. For more information, call (248) 344-3800 or visit http://nhs.northvilleschools.org/.

Ambulance volunteers needed

Huron Valley Ambulance is recruiting for its Volunteer Team and seeking individuals interested in training for a variety of volunteer positions.

Volunteers can train to be a medical first responder at special events or to assist with community education, awareness programs, and administrative tasks.

There is free training for medical first responders during an eight-week training program beginning Feb. 23. Classes meet from 6-10:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. three Saturdays. Students who successfully complete the course are eligible to take the state examination to be certified as a Medical First Responder.

Free training also provided for citizens interested in community education and administrative support volunteer positions.

Go to http://bit.ly/1BflVnO to register for the information meeting, email communityrelations@emergenthealth.org, or call (734) 477-6218 for more information.

Historic lecture series planned

The Northville Historical Society will present a lecture series at 7 p.m. Wednesdays in the Old School Church at Mill Race Historical Village in Northville.

The lectures are free of charge although donations to help offset costs are encouraged and will be accepted at the door.

The 2015 lecture series is provided through the generosity of the Knickerbocker Group of Raymond James.

The lecture schedule includes Feb. 25, The Bay View Association: a National Historic Landmark; March 25, When Mark Twain Came to Michigan; April 22, Little-known Facts About the Lincolns and the Civil War and May 27, The Early Days of Radio in Michigan.

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